## County Facts: Contra Costa County, CA

Population 1,147,000

### The Local Economy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Contra Costa County</th>
<th>CA</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment rate</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty rate</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>5.1%</td>
<td>18.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Median family income (000s)</td>
<td>$90</td>
<td>$67</td>
<td>$57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population growth 2000-2017</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing share of workforce</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farming share of workforce</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Recession unemployment spike (pp)</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
<td>5.0%</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### How Local Kids' Lives Turn Out

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Contra Costa County</th>
<th>CA</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent graduating any college</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent reaching upper-middle class</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent achieving American Dream</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent giving birth as a teen</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent landing in jail</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
<td>1.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local school expenditure per student (000s)</td>
<td>$6.4</td>
<td>$5.5</td>
<td>$5.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Contra Costa County, CA**

Katie Donnelly, Clancy Green, and Danny Yagan
## Local Colleges and Upward Mobility

### 4-Year Colleges

- **Saint Mary's College Of California**
  - Low-income share of students: 6.7%
  - Low-income student success rate: 11.1%
- **California 4-year-college average**
  - Low-income share of students: 9.3%
  - Low-income student success rate: 61.9%
- **U.S. 4-year-college average**
  - Low-income share of students: 64.8%
  - Low-income student success rate: 51.3%

### 2-Year Colleges

- **Diablo Valley College (public)**
  - Low-income share of students: 9.7%
  - Low-income student success rate: 17.5%
- **California 2-year-college average**
  - Low-income share of students: 15.6%
  - Low-income student success rate: 37.4%
- **U.S. 2-year-college average**
  - Low-income share of students: 32.9%
  - Low-income student success rate: 36.4%

*: Data refers to the full college system, not just this campus. †: In nearby county

## Local Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Contra Costa County</th>
<th>CA</th>
<th>United States</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Percent Black</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent Hispanic</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent over age 65</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percent college grad</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime rate (arrests per 10K residents)</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life expectancy (years)</td>
<td>84.8</td>
<td>83.2</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opioid deaths (deaths per 10K residents)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Legend:**
- **Contra Costa County**
- **CA**
- **United States**
Definitions and Sources

The Local Economy
- Unemployment rate (August 2018, BLS)
- Poverty rate (2012-2016 ACS)
- Median family income (2016 ACS)
- Manufacturing share of workforce (2012-2016 ACS)
- Farming share of workforce (2012-2016 ACS)
- Great Recession unemployment spike (BLS LAUS)

How Local Kids’ Lives Turn Out
- Percent graduating any college (2-yr or 4-yr, Tax Data 2, N/A for some counties)
- Percent reaching upper middle-class (top 20% of the U.S. income distribution, Tax Data 1, N/A for some counties)
- Percent achieving American Dream (share of local low-income kids—i.e. those with 25th-income-percentile parents—who reach the top 20% of the U.S. income distribution as adults, Tax Data 1, N/A for some counties)
- Percent (of local female kids) giving birth as a teen (Tax Data 1, N/A for some counties)
- Percent landing in jail (percent of local kids in jail on 1 April 2010, Tax Data 1 and 2010 Census, N/A for some counties)
- Local school expenditure per student (in public schools, NCES, N/A for some counties)

Local Colleges and Upward Mobility
- Low-income share of students (share of age-18-22 students with bottom-20% parents, Tax Data 2)
- Low-income student success rate (share of low-income age-18-22 students who reach the top 40% of the U.S. income distribution as adults, Tax Data 2)

Local Demographics
- Percent Black (2012-2016 ACS)
- Percent Hispanic (2012-2016 ACS)
- Percent over age 65 (2010 Census)
- Percent college grad (4-yr college, 2012-2016 ACS)
- Crime rate (serious violent and property arrests per 10,000 residents, FBI Uniform Crime Reports, N/A for some counties)
- Life expectancy (at age 40, Tax Data 3, N/A for some counties)
- Opioid deaths (per 10,000 residents in 2017, CDC, N/A for some counties and some counties report population weighted commuting zone average)

Sources Legend
- ACS: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Surveys, 2012-2016
- CDC: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Multiple Cause of Death 1999-2017 on CDC WONDER Online Database.
- Census: U.S. Census Bureau